

Application No.: 09/833452
Docket No.: AD6728USNA

REMARKS

Claims 73-80 were objected to. The objection is submitted to be moot as these claims are cancelled.

Claims 66-68 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The rejection is submitted to be moot as "or ionomer-polyamide blend" is deleted from the amended claims 66-68.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 43, 54-80, and 83-84 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over Flieger (US5789048). The rejection is submitted to be moot because the amended claims require a distinctness of image (DOI) at least 60. Flieger does not disclose or suggest a film that would have such DOI.

DOI, as disclosed in applicants' specification, page 11, lines 9-18, is a measure of the "crispness" or "degree of definition" of a reflection of an object in a colored finish compared to the actual object itself. The gloss or DOI can be improved by processing condition of a film. See, e.g., US6403005 (e.g., column 1, lines 12-56 and column 5, lines 30-32, forwarded herewith), a film can be processed to increase its gloss and DOI. See also, US4931324, US5707697, and US5916643.

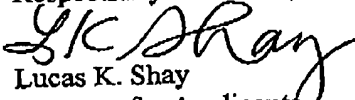
Flieger does not disclose or suggest a film requiring such DOI.

The examiner noted on page 4 of the Office Action, Flieger discloses how to produce the film, the properties of the film, and coextruded layers including a black inner layer for ultra-violet light protection, a white middle layer for appearance, and a clear outer layer for printability and tackiness (column 3, lines 1-5; *italics* applicants'), which does not seem to be an ionomer layer for ionomer layer is not known to be tacky.

For a film to be used, for example, as outer layer of automobile body cannot be tacky as Flieger discloses. Nor an outer layer having a DOI of at least 60 can be or is tacky. As such, Flieger cannot and does not anticipate applicants' claims, as amended.

Claims 3 and 57-63 and 65 further distinguish over Flieger as these claims call for thickness for at least 8 mils (1 mil = 25.4 microns) that are much thicker than those disclosed in Flieger (70-125 microns or from less than 3 mils to about 5 mils). A thick film disclosed in Flieger cannot be used, for example, automobile body.

Respectfully submitted,


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